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March 21, 2002

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Via Hand Carry
Group Art Unit 1655
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Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Appl. No. 09/517,466; Filed: March 2, 2000
For: **Compositions and Methods for Use in Recombinational Cloning of Nucleic Acids**
Inventors: Hartley *et al.*
Our Ref: 0942.4680003/RWE/BJD

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Fifth Preliminary Amendment;
2. 337 pages of a paper copy of a sequence listing;
3. A computer readable copy of the sequence listing; and
4. One (1) return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

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March 21, 2002
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The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. Del Buono", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Brian J. Del Buono
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Enclosures

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